



## **Bridge Funding Guidelines**

INL ATR NSUF irradiation and critical facility projects are designed to provide access to the INL Advanced Test Reactor and applicable associated NSUF designated facilities, along with the associated INL staff support time necessary to execute the project. Selected projects will have access to these facilities at reduced rates and often at no charge to universities and university investigators. A university investigator proposing an experiment or project is assumed to have adequate funding at the start of the experiment to cover the basic salary, travel, and materials costs for university participants. Recognizing that a university investigator's funding support may change over the course of a multi-year irradiation experiment, the INL ATR NSUF has created a Bridge Funding Program to provide a possible, but not certain, alternative funding arrangement should original funding uncertainties occur associated with new applications for extramural funding, particularly those involving support for graduate students. Bridge Funding may also be available to cover necessary materials and supplies related to the ongoing NSUF project that may fall outside the scope of the university faculty member's existing grant(s).

INL NSUF Bridge funding, if made available, is only applicable for reactor irradiation experiments or critical facility experiments and is not for use for Rapid Turnaround or Post-Irradiation Examination only experiments. To be eligible for salary support through Bridge Funding, the university investigator must prove submission of a minimum of one proposal to a funding agency that incorporates or directly supports the NSUF experiment or project.

The following guidelines apply to ATR NSUF Bridge Funding.

### **Support Overview**

- A university investigator cannot receive more than \$50K over a one-year period. NSUF bridge funding may be used to cover fringes but may not be used for indirect charges.
- After receiving bridge funding, if a university faculty investigator subsequently receives extramural funding, Bridge Funding will be reduced by an equivalent amount
- Renewed Bridge Funding in subsequent years is contingent upon a university faculty investigator submitting a minimum of one proposal to a funding agency to gain support for the research that is the foundation of the ATR NSUF experiment or project. In short, Bridge Funding should be regarded as a possible backup funding source that is at a minimum contingent upon the university faculty investigator showing a sustained effort to obtain independent funding.
- Total INL NSUF Bridge Funding cannot exceed \$150K over the life of any experiment or project.



### **Salary Support**

- The maximum support for which a university faculty investigator may request salary support is a total of 1 month during any 3-year period for each specific experiment or project
- Support for a specific individual graduate student will not exceed three years (contingent upon renewal of Bridge Funding each year), will be at the typical rate for each university, and will include any required tuition remission.

### **Facilities, Equipment, Publications, Materials & Supplies Support**

- Materials and supplies requests, including shop services, must be directly linked to the ATR NSUF experiment or project execution and cannot exceed \$20,000 total over the life of the experiment or project unless the project requires more as determined and approved by the ATR NSUF Program Office.
- The ATR NSUF does not provide funds for non-research related expenditures such as office equipment and/or telephone line charges
- No permanent equipment can be purchased using Bridge Funding
- Publication charges are not allowed under Bridge Funding

### **Travel Support**

- If the ATR NSUF Program Office requests a university investigator to travel to support NSUF functions, separate travel support will be provided by separate written agreement outside of Bridge Funding.

**To apply for ATR NSUF Bridge Funding, a university investigator should supply the following to the NSUF Program Office:**

1. An updated version of their current & pending file, clearly indicating pending experiments or projects that would support the ATR NSUF goals and mission
2. A list of recently completed proposals or recently submitted but declined proposals that did or would have incorporated or supported the ATR NSUF goals and mission
3. A budget and budget justification that clearly outlines the basis of the NSUF Bridge Funding request against the Bridge Funding guidelines

**All INL NSUF Bridge Funding is subject to availability and all Bridge Funding is at the sole discretion of Battelle Energy Alliance, LLC, (BEA) the Management and Operating Contractor of the Idaho National Laboratory under U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE) Contract No. DE-AC07-05ID14517. The above Guidelines are non-binding and not contractual in nature. To the extent any of the above Guidelines conflict with the terms of BEA's DOE Contract, the terms of that Contract shall prevail.**